The cultural project that I found, “My Multicultural Self” can be found at: <http://www.tolerance.org/activity/my-multicultural-self>. I found it interesting because it has students write down the labels that they feel define them best. Next they form small groups based on descriptors that they used, revealing that members of the same community are not always exactly the same. Finally, the students reflect on the ever-changing nature of identity.

The project begins with a presentation by the teacher of the five identifiers that, in their opinion, best defines them. This is followed by a discussion of how the identifiers interrelate and how they shape the teacher’s view of the world. After the behaviors of this project have been sufficiently modeled, a handout is distributed so that students can select five identifiers that they feel adequately describe them. Students are then given time to silently reflect on the identifiers that they have chosen and then groups are formed based on common identifiers. This allows students to see how even members of similar groups can be vastly different from one another. This is followed by a group discussion of the role that these selected identifiers play in our experience of the world around us. Some interesting discussion questions are provided. Finally, the class explores how our identities are constantly changing as a result of major events in our lives.

This relatively simple project has the potential to achieve profound results, revealing to students how singular and similar we all are. It can be used as an introduction to a cultural fair event or as a standalone project to provide insight into cultural identity. I believe that it is a worthwhile project that could be used in almost any secondary classroom setting.